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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,998	02/27/2002	Benjamin R. Yerxa	03678.0102.CPUS00	3186
27194	7590	03/14/2005	EXAMINER	
HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP c/o IP DOCKETING DEPARTMENT 2941 FAIRVIEW PARK DRIVE, SUITE 200 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042-2924			WARD, PAUL V	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1623		

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/082,998	BENJAMIN R. YERXA	
	Examiner PAUL V. WARD	Art Unit 1623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of Group IV (claims 1-9 of formula 1, where A is OR¹, SR¹ or NR¹R² such that OR¹ and SR¹ are not -OH and -SH) in the reply filed on July 3, 2003, is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election **without** traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Accordingly, Groups I-III and Groups V-XXV are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 1.152(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Applicant reserved the right to file a divisional application to the non-elected subject matter.

An action on the merits on claims 1-9 is contained herein.

Information Disclosure Statement

The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609 A(1) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Oath/Declaration

The Oath/Declaration does not appear in the file, which identify the citizenship of each inventor. Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

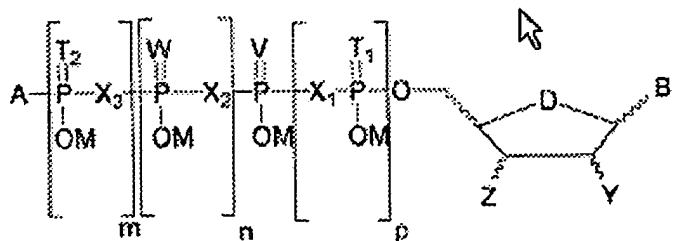
The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moffatt (U.S. Patent 3,321,463).

Applicant teaches mononucleoside phosphate compounds having the general formula:



wherein all the variables are as defined in the claim.

Moffatt teaches mononucleoside phosphate compounds having the same formulaic compounds. (See Formula I, col. 3 lines 32-70). The compounds in the said patent has the same structure, which includes Y and Z as H, OH or OR₅; D as O; B as a purine or pyrimidine; T₁, T₂, W and V as O; M as H or counter ion, and A as an NR₁R₂,

CR₁R₂R₃ or OR₁. (See col. 3, lines 50-60, and col. 9, lines 60-70). Thus, the compounds in the said reference falls within the range of Applicant's mononucleoside phosphate compounds.

Since Moffatt teaches the exact compounds, Applicant's claims are anticipated, and thus, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moffatt et al. (Journal of ACS).

Moffatt teaches mononucleoside phosphate compounds having the same formulaic compounds. (See Abstract and Formula I, page 3756). The compounds in the said patent has the same structure, which includes Y and Z as H, OH or OR₅; D as O; B as a purine or pyrimidine; T₁, T₂, W and V as O; M as H or counter ion, and A as an NR₁R₂, CR₁R₂R₃ or OR₁. (See page 3757). Thus, the compounds in the said reference falls within the range of Applicant's mononucleoside phosphate compounds.

Since Moffatt teaches the exact compounds, Applicant's claims are anticipated, and thus, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moffatt (U.S. Patent 3,321,463).

Moffatt teaches a generic group of mononucleoside phosphate derivatives, which embraces Applicants' claimed compounds. (See formula 1, col. 3, col. 9 and definitions for Z, R, R¹, R²). The claims differ from the reference by reciting specific species and a more limited genus than the reference. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to select any of the species of the genus taught by the reference, including those instantly claimed, because the skilled chemist would have the reasonable expectation that any of the species of the genus would have similar properties, and thus, the same use as taught for the genus as a whole. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to select the claimed compounds from the genus in the reference since such compounds would have been suggested by the reference as a whole. A prior art disclosed genus of useful compounds is sufficient to render *prima facie* obvious a species falling within a genus. Thus, Applicant's claims are obvious, and therefore, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103.

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moffatt (Journal of the American chemical Society).

Moffatt teaches a generic group of mononucleoside phosphate derivatives, which embraces Applicants' claimed compounds. (See formula 1, pp. 3756-57, and definitions for R, R¹, R²). The claims differ from the reference by reciting specific species and a more limited genus than the reference. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to select any of the species of the genus taught by the reference, including those instantly claimed, because the skilled chemist would have the reasonable expectation that any of the species of the genus would have similar properties, and thus, the same use as taught for the genus as a whole. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to select the claimed compounds from the genus in the reference since such compounds would have been suggested by the reference as a whole. A prior art disclosed genus of useful compounds is sufficient to render *prima facie* obvious a species falling within a genus. Thus, Applicant's claims are obvious, and therefore, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103.

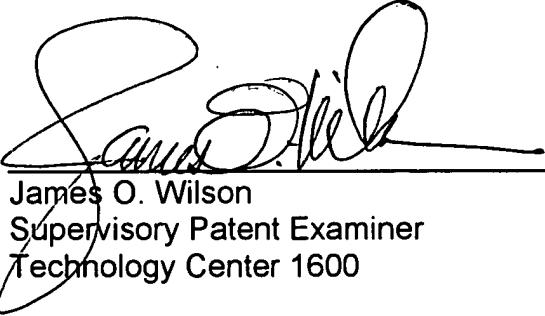
Conclusion

Claims 1-9 are pending. Claims 1-9 are rejected. No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAUL V. WARD whose telephone number is 571-272-2909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



James O. Wilson
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600